

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

The undersigned thanks the Examiner for the time and courtesy extended during the telephone interview of January 9, 2008 in which the Notice of Non-Compliant Amendment was discussed. In light of that discussion, independent claims 1 and 16 have been amended, and thus the concern raised by the Notice of Non-Compliant Amendment has been overcome. These amendments to claims 1 and 16 include subject matter regarding the iterations performed, as requested by the Examiner. It is thus respectfully submitted that these independent claims are patentable for this additional reason, in addition to the reasons discussed below.

The above amendment shows all amendments relative to the originally pending claims, rather than relative to the Reply to Office Action filed on October 31, 2007.

Applicant gratefully acknowledges the indication that claims 7, 8, 11, 13-15, 23 and 27 as set forth in the Reply to Office Action mailed May 18, 2007 are objected to but include allowable subject matter. Independent claims 9, 12, 20 and 24 have been amended to include the subject matter of objected-to claims 11, 13, 23 and 27 (and any intervening claims), respectively. Thus independent claims 9, 12, 20 and 24 are now in condition for allowance.


Independent claims 1 and 16 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) over U.S. Patent No. 6,931,634 (Croix) in view of U.S. Patent No. 5,339,419 (Chan). Applicant respectfully traverses the rejection. In this regard, neither reference anywhere teaches or suggests applying data transformation to create an interlocking Feistel network in each iteration of multiple iterations of forming matching pairs of data values. As such, claims 1 and 16 are patentable, and for at least the same reasons so too are the claims depending therefrom.

New dependent claims 28 and 29 are patentable for at least the same reasons as the independent claims from which they depend.

In view of the prior Reply to Office Action and this Reply to Notice of Non-Compliant Amendment, the application is now in condition for allowance and the Examiner's prompt action in accordance therewith is respectfully requested. The Commissioner is authorized to charge any additional fees or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 20-1504.

Respectfully submitted,

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